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a butcher shop and not give them any time to listen, cut them short, and sometimes not get to hear them at all. I've sat in hearings that lasted as late as eleven o'clock at night. I believe that we need to give more time to our people, not to us but to the people that we represent, and not make it a mockery of the system when they introduce a bill to give them a chance to come down and give us their honest input for or against or in neutral fashion for a bill. I know I would expect that when I come down, and they get it in other committees. That's why I've been supportive of changing Judiciary to a four-day committee. I serve on Transportation Committee, another committee that I dearly love and have enjoyed and been lucky enough to be on that committee as long as I have Judiciary. If we go to four days, I would hopefully be able to stay on Judiciary, but it would be hard for me to give up Transportation, but I think it needs to be done. This isn't in place for me, this is in place for the state of Nebraska. I'm not trying to sound eloquent, but I'm trying to sound realistic, and hopefully that we will do something in the future besides just talk about making Judiciary a four-day committee and actually do something about it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Lieutenant Governor Maurstad, members of the Legislature, again, I would like to refocus on the central point, the overload on the Judiciary Committee, and to point out to you once again just, please, try to keep these numbers in mind. Over the last six-year period the average number of bills per year in the Judiciary Committee is 162 bills, 162 bills. If you look at Natural Resources, for example, the average there over time was 71 bills, 162 versus 71. And these are both three-day committees. Think of the unfairness of the workload on senators, for example. If you add Ag, the average of Ag over the last six years to Natural Resources, how close to that 162 in Judiciary do you think you get, 150, 130, 110? Well, you get 88 bills on average. Combining Agriculture and Natural Resources you're still at...you're at 88 bills, compared to Judiciary's 162. I think that just gives you an idea of the scale of the problem that we're dealing with, and I think that scale is important to keep in mind, because this is the